FBIS DAILY REPORT

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TARIFF AGREEMENT WITH USSR SIGNED IN BUENOS AIRES

FY310225 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2110 GMT 30 Mar 79 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Mar (TELAM)--Through Foreign Minister Carlos Washington Pastor and Soviet Ambassador to Argentina Sergey Striganov, Argentina and the Soviet Union today concluded an agreement whereby profits from international freight will be assessed taxes only in the country in which the transport company is headquartered, thus preventing double taxation.

During the ceremony, Minister Pastor stated that trade between the two nations amounted to $50 million in 1978 and that thus the Soviet Union has become one of the main buyers of Argentine products.

The ceremony, which took place in the Dorado Hall of San Martin Palace, was also attended by Finance Secretary Juan Aleman, Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Carlos Candoli, Under Secretary for International Economic Relations Raul Cura, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary General Hugo Repetto Pelaez and other government officials.

After stressing the importance of the agreement, the Argentine foreign minister said that "the trade figure reached should not satisfy us because it is well below our respective capacities."

He said in conclusion that the agreement signed today was a landmark in the dynamic context of relations between the two countries which "will be followed by others in the future, such as a visit of a high-level delegation to Moscow and the meeting of the joint Argentine-Soviet commission for economic, trade and technical-scientific cooperation to be held in Buenos Aires this year."

The document which goes into effect today establishes that the profits from international maritime and air transport or from sales of movable or unmovable assets [muebles e inmuebles], ships and planes or incomes earned by employment aboard these carriers will be taxed only by the contracting state in which the transport company is headquartered or in which the employer resides.

A note is appended to the agreement stating that the provisions of the latter "will be applied on a reciprocal basis to all taxes or duties on gross profit or patent rights chargeable to profitable activities within the municipality of Buenos Aires."

The Soviet ambassador agreed with the Argentine foreign minister on the importance of this new understanding and on the interesting possibilities opened thereby for the two countries in the field of trade and economic association.

AUTO FACTORY STRIKE IN BUENOS AIRES REPORTED SETTLED

FY301334 Paris AFP in Spanish 0237 GMT 30 Mar 79 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Mar (AFP)--It has been reported that the 1,200 workers who were holding a strike at the Thompson-Ramco auto parts factory today lifted the stoppage when their salaries were increased by 15 percent.

The settlement was reached directly between the workers and the enterprise under the supervision of the labor minister, through his delegation in Cordoba, located 780 km northeast of Buenos Aires.

Moreover, it was announced in labor circles that the second meeting between workers and directors of the Renault Argentina factory will be held tomorrow, Friday. They are trying to reach a salary agreement.

The first meeting was held last Monday and at the end of this meeting Renault factory spokesman said that a principle of agreement was achieved on the issues under discussion.

Labor sources, however, declined to comment on this statement.

4,000 TEXTILE WORKERS OUT ON STRIKE

PY310152 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 30 Mar (AFP)--Approximately 4,000 workers of the giant textile factory Alpargatas Argentina launched a strike this afternoon protesting their low salaries. According to union spokesmen, the strike began after the workers rejected their employer's offer of an 18-percent hike. The workers are demanding a greater increase in their salaries effective the day after tomorrow (1 April), and not as of 16 April as the employers have proposed, the spokesman stated.

PUBLISHING FIRM BOMBED; NO INJURIES REPORTED

PY311246 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1137 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 31 Mar (NA)--This morning a bomb exploded at the door of the Atlantida publishing firm, an enterprise which publishes EL GRAFICO, GENTE, SOMOS and other magazines.

The bomb exploded at 0105 this morning and the violent blast blew the entrance door of the house into the middle of Azopardo Street.

The personnel of the printing shop, which is in the first floor of the building at 579 Azopardo Street, immediately led to the street, and neighbors could see the big flame from the explosion. The explosion was so strong that it shook buildings several blocks away.

BRIEFS

IMPRISONED PROFESSOR RELEASED--Buenos Aires, 29 Mar (AFP)--A former professor of the theory of underdevelopment at Bahia Blanca University, Carlos Barrera, was released under conditional freedom on 22 March. He had been tried on charges of ideological infiltration at Bahia Blanca University. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1646 GMT 29 Mar 79 PY]

[MASSERA VISIT TO JAPAN--According to information released in Buenos Aires, Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera (ret), former commander in chief of the Argentine Navy, is currently visiting Japan, where he is holding talks with government officials parliamentarians and businessmen. Massera plans to conclude his visit to Japan next Friday and travel to Beijing in response to an invitation issued by the PRC Government. Massera's activities have included meetings with Prime Minister Ohira Masayoshi and Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda. He has also held talks with high-ranking executives of several corporations such as Nippon steel, Mitsui, Mitsubishi, the Bank of Tokyo and other concerns related to fishing and the shipbuilding industry. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 28 Mar 79 p 6 PY]

BANZER SPOKESMAN DENIES RUMORS OF ANTIGOVERNMENT PLOT

PY311657 Paris AFP in Spanish 1424 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 31 Mar (AFP)--Rumors that former President Hugo Banzer is plotting against the government were categorically denied here today by Franz Ondarza, national deputy chief of the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN].

Banzer is in Santa Cruz working on the organization of our party, he added.

The former Bolivian president founded the ADN 1 week ago.

PRA TO JOIN FRONT FORMED BY MNR, PDC, FRI

PY301856 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Text] The national conference of the Authentic Revolutionary Party [PRA] has confirmed its participation in the political alliance which is being formed by the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and the Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI]. (Mario Calderon Mendieta), PRA executive secretary, has stated this, adding that the meeting was held recently with the participation of representatives from many parts of the country. He said:

[Begin recording] At this meeting, which was of prime importance for the objectives sought by the PRA in the national revolution, all problems have been overcome and the decision has been made [words indistinct] to participate in the alliance which is being negotiated. [end recording]

(Calderon Medieta) then remarked that the PRA national meeting had also studied problems regarding the organization and reorganization of its political leadership on a national scale.

The executive secretary of the political party concluded by stating that the latest decision of the armed forces regarding the obligatory retirement of high-ranking military chiefs is a patriotic measure which consolidates and confirms the constitutionalization process. [recorded passage indistinct]

FINANCE MINISTER REVEALS NEW BUDGET FIGURES

PY311422 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0602 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Taking into account the need to observe strict austerity in the incomes and expenditures of the state administration and with the aim of achieving an economic adjustment of all state organizations, the government has issued a decree approving the consolidated budget of the nation for fiscal year 1979 totaling 63,855,884,500 Bolivian pesos.

The decision was made after a thorough study of the economic situation of the country and on the basis of a report submitted by Finance Minister Wenceslao Alba for the consideration of the Cabinet.

He explained that the budget includes investments which are considered to be of vital importance for the development of the country.

He stated that the deficit totals 3 million Bolivian pesos, saying that it will be covered through aid and cooperation from international credit organizations, particularly for investment projects. He said: "Strict control of the public expenditures of all enterprises also will be exercised in the execution of the budget. The president will give precise instructions about this to all officials and executives of the enterprises."

OWNERS OF PRIVATE BANKS STAGE LOCKOUT, FINED BY CENTRAL BANK

Lockout After Employees Strike

FY301825 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 79 FY

[Summary] This morning, when the employees of private banks were going to resume work after their 24-hour strike, they found the banks closed by order of their managements. The situation is being studied by the bank employees who will release a communique condemning the attitude of the private banks.

Juan Lechin Oquendo, topmost leader of the labor movement, termed the closing of the banks a lockout for political purposes. Lechin said: This is a lockout decreed by the employers on absurd pretexts. Yesterday our comrades, the bank employees, conducted the strike ordered by the Bank Employees Confederation. Today, when they returned to work, they found the doors of the banks closed, which is a lockout. Just now they are at the Bolivian Labor Central headquarters drawing up a document to alert the workers in general because this is the beginning of a plot by the employers. We believe that the government should take measures because this is clearly a plot. The employers are creating the conditions for real anarchy.

Lechin continued: The employers believe that this is an opportunity to provoke uncertainty, distrust and anarchy, allowing the Banzerists to take over the government again.

The Central Bank and other state banks have not been affected by the lockout and opened normally this morning.

The Interior and Labor ministries are studying the situation created by the closing of the private banks, an unexpected measure taken this morning by their managements. The Interior Ministry has warned that it will do its duty if political motives are discovered.

Private Banks Fined

FY310139 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Mar 79 FY

[Text] The Central Bank issued a communique today assessing a 20,000-peso fine on every private bank that did not open for business today in retaliation for the "limp arms" strike staged yesterday by bank employees. The Central Bank explained that private banks can be so penalized under provisions of the bank's organic law forbidding banks to close on any normal business day without permission from the Central Bank.

The Central Bank also announced that all private banks will open for business next Monday while negotiations continue for finding a solution to the management-employee deadlock over demands for salary adjustments and better working conditions. Any bank failing to open for normal business will be assessed even larger fines in accordance with the law.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON REOPENING OF POLITICAL REGISTRIES

PY302114 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Recorded portions in quotation marks]

[Text] The government will seek and study new formulas for reopening electoral registries at the appropriate time, according to a statement made at noon today by Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez. The remark was made in answer to a public demand by former political leaders, professionals and student and labor leaders for the reopening of political registries. In this regard, Fernandez said that the demand is only a way to seek a continuation of collusion [contubernio].

"This is an excuse to continue the political collusion of the past following the way in which these political groups interpret solutions to national problems. For them these solutions arise exclusively from formulas which have proved to be failures, but they are convinced that these formulas can result in some sort of benefit for the country. For us who represent the government of the future, this type of formula is completely outdated and we believe that countries grow and prosper with work, order and development, not with petty politics, or chaos, or disorder. However, it is extraordinarily suggestive that this group of politicans does nothing but [word indistinct], showing very clearly their political and demagogic motives."

The interior minister also emphasized that the government will study the issue at the appropriate time and will seek up-to-date formulas for this purpose.

"At the appropriate time, the government will study and analyze the issue, seeking up-to-date formulas and not those linked with a past which the entire country has overcome. [Words indistinct] at the right time, the proper procedures will be implemented. We are interested in much more important things than those sought by these persons."

Finally, the Cabinet chief was asked about the possibility of using computers in the future political registries as a way to avoid fraud.

"We are living in the computer era, while these persons are tied to a past which--well, a past which meant development for them but chaos for the people."

ENAP MANAGER SEES 35-PERCENT RISE IN OIL PRODUCTION

PY311346 Paris AFP in Spanish 0414 GMT 31 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 30 Mar (AFP)--It was announced here today that Chile will increase its oil production this year. Alejandro Marty, manager of the National Petroleum Enterprise (ENAP), said that the works of exploration and exploitation in the Magellan Strait will continue with an annual investment of $60 million.

The ENAP manager has begun a visit to the oil wells and installations in the Magellan Strait near this southern city, 3,000 km south of Santiago.

According to official statistics, one-fouth of the oil consumed by Chile is derived from internal production. Marty asserted: "This year we will be 40-45 percent self-sufficient."

ENAP is also conducting explorations in other areas in the south and center regions of Chilean territory in addition to the Magellan Strait.

It was revealed that Chilean oil imports primarily come from Ecuador, Venezuela, Gabon and Iran at an annual cost of $400 million.

ECONOMY MINISTER TO HEAD TRADE DELEGATION TO PRC

PY301321 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Recorded portions in quotation marks]

[Excerpt] The Chilean trade delegation which will visit the PRC in April is comprised of 20 persons. The mission is headed by Economy Minister Roberto Kelly and includes representatives from the public and private sectors. Among others, the mission includes (?Roberto J. Mckeen), foreign relations under secretary; [name indistinct], president of Cellulose Industries; and Fernando Leniz Cerda, from the Chilean Lumber Corporation.

"Our visit to the PRC is divided in two parts. We will arrive on 9 April and on Tuesday we have a meeting scheduled with the minister of foreign commerce, which will be the first of a series of meetings to exchange ideas with the many PRC institutions. We will stay in the capital until 12 April. The following day we will be heading for Shanghai, where we will spend the weekend, and on Sunday evening we will go to (Hong Kong). On 15 April we will attend the inauguration ceremonies of the (Canton spring) fair at which time we hope [words indistinct] may achieve specific agreements."

Economy Minister Roberto Kelly noted the importance of this visit which was agreed upon during Foreign Ministers Cubillos' trip to the PRC, by saying: "It is very important for us to know what the products are that we can import from the PRC since at this time the trade balance is favorable to Chile. As you know, the PRC [words indistinct] about 20,000 tons of saltpeter per year and about 30,000 tons of copper. On the other hand, Chile is importing mainly pharmaceutical products, some textile products, some [words indistinct] not in the same volume as those we export."

HOME OF TELEPHONE EXECUTIVE TARGET OF MIR BOMB

PY301557 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1525 GMT 30 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Mar (TELAM-EFE)--A terrorist command detonated a powerful bomb early this morning in the front garden of the residence of a high-level executive official of a Chilean state company. The attack, which was the 15th this year, was directed against Col Cristian Moller (ret), general manager of the Chilean Telephone Company, whose residence suffered considerable damage.

The bomb went off a little past 0200. The political identity of the perpetrators has not yet been established, but it is believed that they belong to the Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR), which has claimed responsibility for the latest attacks in the country. The MIR group, which has claimed to be the perpetrators of the terrorist outbreak, calls itself the "Alvaro Radriga" command, in memory of an MIR leader who died some years ago during a confrontation with Chilean Government security forces.

WORKERS SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER ARRESTED IN BIM RAID

PA301205 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Bogota--Gloria Estele Gallego, secretary general of the Workers Socialist Party, was arrested today by military intelligence agents and accused of belonging to the Workers' Self-Defense Movement urban guerrilla group [MAO] which assassinated former Minister Rafael Pardo.

The political militant was arrested following a raid on her residence at 5th B Street and 73rd Avenue. The arrest was conducted by the Special Operations Department of the Military Institutes Brigade [BIM].

Further Arrests

PA310319 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] At least 34 persons, presumably connected to the Workers' Self-Defense Movement [MAO], an urban guerrilla organization that has claimed responsibility for the assassination of former Minister Rafael Pardo Buelvas, were arrested today in Bogota.

Cadena Radial Super has learned, despite the Military Institutes Brigade's [BIM] usual secrecy in these cases, that these persons were arrested during raids authorized by military authorities.

Alfredo Enrique Camelo is among those arrested. He reportedly participated in the assassination of former Minister Pardo Buelvas disguised as a soldier. All the prisoners are being submitted to intensive questioning at the BIM.

NEW LAW BARS MILITARY FROM JUDGING CIVILIANS

PA310349 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Ricardo Franco report from Congress--recorded]

[Text] Military penal justice will not be able to be invoked to prosecute civilians. This has been established by a congressional committee in charge of amendments to the penal law in a new article that will be issued in a few days. The new article states that military penal justice will only be able to court-martial civilians in case of war with a foreign power.

With this new article, Congress has corrected a flaw that jurists have denounced which granted the right to prosecute civilians during a state of siege under the military penal code.

HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM CONDEMNS GOVERNMENT MEASURES

PA012010 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[By Alexandra Pineda]

[Text] The National Forum on Human Rights, which adjourned here this noon, condemned the extended state of siege, the security statute and the application of Article 28 of the national Constitution. All participants agreed that the application of this article was arbitrary and designed to restrain the social, political and labor freedoms of the nation's working classes.

The participants were unanimous in indicating that there are sectors of the armed forces that are opposed to the practice of torture and the violation of human rights, which were amply denounced at the forum. One of the denunciations that had a great impact among the delegates was the charge made by Conservative leader Roberto Gerlein Echeverria that the extension of the state of siege is not a unilateral decision of the armed forces, but corresponds to the interests of 24 monopolies which practically own the country, controlling 70 percent of the national resources. Gerlin Echeverria said that these monopolies finance and use the traditional parties for their own benefit.

It was also reported that the forum turned down a request to invite as a delegate to the forum a representative of the U.S. Embassy because, it was said, U.S. President Jimmy Carter has financed dictatorial regimes such as those of Pinochet and Anastasio Somoza.

AUTHORITIES DISCOVER PEOPLES PRISON IN MEDELLIN

PA310353 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] A few hours ago, military authorities found a people's prison in Bogota. Military and police forces in a combined action which began last night discovered the people's prison in a large old house located in southwestern Bogota. In the guerrilla hideout they also found materials for making time bombs, hoods, .30-caliber ammunition, M-19 subversive propaganda, an empty can of methanol, a highly explosive liquid alcohol, and some groceries.

The authorities feel that this has been a serious blow to the rebel groups opposed to the government. They also confirmed that industrialist Alfredo Quintero was held in this people's prison. Authorities also disclosed that the property where the people's prison was found belongs to Luis Carlos Alcazar, former Popular National Alliance councilman, who was arrested last Thursday.

STATE COUNCIL RECOGNIZES VENEZUELAN RIGHTS TO LOS MONJES

PA301942 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1751 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 30 Mar (EFE)--The Council of State has refused to recognize as null an international ruling that established Venezuela's sovereignty over the Los Monjes Archipelago on the Colombian border.

On Thursday, the high tribunal also refused to modify a note dated 22 November 1952 in which then Colombian Foreign Minister Juan Uribe Holguin maintained that Los Monjes legally belonged to Colombia.

The Council of State decision indicated that Minister Uribe Holguin violated constitutional principles, usurping powers that belong to the president of the republic and the Colombian Congress.

Colombia and Venezuela have had a drawn-out dispute over the Los Monjes Archipelago, located in the Gulf of Maracaibo, for many years. The two countries are currently discussing the delimitation of marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Maracaibo. After 25 years of talks, they have been unable to reach a direct agreement.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES NOTE ON LOS MONJES

PA302007 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Report by Arnoldo Perosa]

[Text] The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry issued an official statement today regarding the statement issued by Colombia's Council of State in which it fully recognizes Venezuela's sovereignty over the Los Monjes Archipelago. The statement, signed by Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, states:

Venezuela's right to Los Monjes dates back to the birth of the Venezuela governorship and the capitulation of the (?Belgrades) signed in Madrid on 27 March 1528. According to that document, all coastal islands in question are explicitly granted to Venezuela. By 1528, the Foreign Ministry statement added, all those islands appeared on maps and had the same names they have today. If there is anything clear in the 1528 capitulation document it is that Los Monjes Archipelago has been part of the Venezuela governorship ever since it was established as a political entity. The islands are as Venezuelan as the rest of the islands off that coast. Los Monjes Archipelago and the maritime jurisdiction of [name indistinct] are what Venezuela has left from a larger area in La Guajira Peninsula which at one time stretched to Cabo de la Vela.

The Foreign Ministry statement added that the Colombian note of 22 November 1952--which stated that Colombia was not opposed to and had nothing to say about Venezuela's sovereignty over Los Monjes--is therefore merely a statement and does not affect our rights. Anyhow, it is fully refutable. Venezuela's sovereignty over Los Monjes has never been at stake or much less debated in the marine and submarine demarcation talks with Colombia. The Foreign Ministry statement added that the recent treaties that Venezuela has signed with important countries in the region recognize the importance of Los Monjes in the demarcation of the marine and submarine areas. Finally, it noted that the Colombian Council of State statement published in the press today is a positive element in the effort to find a fair solution that the two countries have been promoting.

This is the official statement issued by the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry regarding a statement made by the Colombian Council of State recognizing Venezuela's sovereignty over Los Monjes. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry did not comment on the statement by former Colombian President Carlos Lleras Restrepo accusing Venezuela of delaying negotiations on the maritime issue and declaring that direct talks had led nowhere. The Foreign Ministry declined comment.

ZAMBRANO DENIES U.S.-MADE RIFLES SENT TO COSTA RICA

PA310222 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2230 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 30 Mar (EFE)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco denied today that his country had delivered U.S.-made weapons to Costa Rica.

"Venezuela only works with the weapons of diplomacy, and, therefore, those weapons have not been turned over," the Venezuelan foreign minister asserted. Zambrano Velasco was queried by newsmen about a report cabled from Costa Rica according to which President Rodrigo Carazo had assumed full responsibility for the transfer of Venezuelan weapons to Costa Rica. Apparently, the Costa Rican president said that the weapons were "loaned" to his country in view of Nicaraguan events, especially along the Costa Rican border.

Meanwhile, U.S. Congressman Eldon Rudd requested some days ago the investigation of the alleged transfer by Venezuela of 1,000 U.S.-made M-14 rifles to Costa Rica.

Perez Statement

PA312011 Paris AFP in Spanish 1940 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 31 Mar (AFP)--Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez said here today that U.S. congressmen in the pay of Anastasio Somoza are the ones who have accused the Venezuelan Government of supplying weapons to Costa Rica.

He said he was honored to have helped the Costa Rican Government face the aggression of the Somozist despot.

He said that the Nicaraguan dictator is so powerful that he has at his service U.S. congressmen who have tried to create a scandal over weapons that Venezuela provided to Costa Rica, complying with all legal procedures, so that it could at least have its borders respected.

Perez said that both he and Democratic Action will back any action that the new Social Christian government of Venezuela takes to support Costa Rica.

HERRERA CAMPINS HOLDS FIRST CABINET MEETING

PA302255 Paris AFP in Spanish 2332 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 29 Mar (AFP)--President Luis Herrera Campins at Miraflores Palace today held his first Council of Ministers' meeting since he assumed power on 12 March.

The council gave special attention to security problems and the efficiency of the public administration, Information and Tourism Minister Jose Luis Zapata reported. The Cabinet approved a 22-million-bolivar special credit to reinforce security measures to halt the growing crime wave, Zapata said.

Five cabinets were also approved to coordinate and give greater flexibility to public administration in their respective spheres. They are the following:

1. Political, defense and security activities, coordinated by Interior Minister Rafael Montes de Oca;
2. Economic activities, coordinated by Finance Minister Luis Ugueto;
3. Educational and cultural activities, coordinated by Education Minister Rafael Fernandez Heres;
4. Social activities, coordinated by Health Minister Alfonso Benzecri;
5. Physical development and territorial organization activities, coordinated by Transport and Communications Minister Vinicio Carrero.

In his first Cabinet meeting, Herrera Campins announced his general policy and reasserted his intention of giving his administration a marked social focus. It was reported that the 26 ministers described the situation in which they received their respective cabinets from the hands of the previous Social Democratic administration.

The Cabinet approved a 74-million-bolivar ($17.2 million) credit for the Supreme Electoral Council to finance the coming municipal elections in June. The Cabinet also issued its first decree, creating an integrated higher education system to which all university-level institutions will belong. The Council of Ministers will meet on Thursdays, not every week, but only when necessary, the minister said.

HERRERA ANNOUNCES OIL PRODUCTION CAPACITY INCREASE

PA312124 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 26 Mar 79 p D-1 PA

[Excerpts] Maracay, Venezuela, 25 Mar--During a visit to the Bolivar sugarmill on the occasion of the 165th anniversary of the Battle of San Mateo, President Luis Herrera Campins announced that Venezuela's oil production capacity will be progressively increased.

What will happen to oil production, will it be increased or not? so asked a television journalist.

The president replied that we have said that one cannot capriciously increase national oil production, especially after so many years without exploration in this country since the companies extracting our oil stopped exploring during the years immediately prior to nationalization. Now we have begun exploring again to try to increase our reserves, and we are also going to increase our production capcity. However, this is not a rapid process, but a progressive process that we have to carry out according to our technical capacity on one hand and our conservationist policy on the other hand.

ENERGY MINISTER RULES OUT PREFERENTIAL OIL PRICES

PA310200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2108 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 30 Mar (EFE)--Venezuelan Energy and Minies Minister Humberto Calderon said today that for the time being there will be no preferential prices for developing countries.

The high-ranking Venezuelan official, who has just returned from the OPEC meeting in Geneva, said that preferential treatment for developing countries was not discussed by OPEC members. However, the minister said that the subject will be specially analyzed during the organization's meeting in June. He added that such preferential treatment will depend on conclusions reached at that conference.

On the other hand, the Venezuelan minister said that at the Geneva meeting very specific proposals were made to avoid an alteration in the balance of payments of the "Third World" countries as a result of the increase in the price of crude. The ministers meet in June to see how the less economically favored nations will be treated.

LOPEZ-PORTILLO COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT PLANNING

PA311526 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Report by Angel (Trivial) Ferreira]

[Text] [Words indistinct] Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo has cleared up certain doubts about the planning efforts that his administration is carrying out. He said that no plan could prevail if individual and social interests are not respected. He said that this is guaranteed through the legislative right [derecho legislativo].

He referred to his campaign promises, noting that the country's reality has changed since then. He added that changes force people and situations to change. He said that if plans were not flexible and could not cope with alternatives, they would become limited and one of two things would happen: They would either undermine the activity in a society or would be shamefully hidden in the desks of technicians. He stressed that he does not want either situation in the country.

He noted that our energy reserves changed our macroeconomic situation and for this reason the government decided to take steps that went along with the country's reality in order to achieve a more [word indistinct] development.

President Lopez-Portillo said that the comprehensive agreement program must follow the political philosophy stated in our Constitution. [sentence indistinct]

He said that upon coordinating the development programs for industry, agriculture, communications, transportation and human settlements with the comprehensive agreement program, solid planning was achieved to take advantage of the historic opportunity that the oil expectations represent for this and the next generation.

SECRETARY EXPLAINS USE OF OIL REVENUE SURPLUS

PA301558 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Report by Flavio Guzman]

[Text] The federal government noted today that the oil revenue surplus will be used to seek a rational balance among promotion of business activity, development of the state's basic industries and attention to be given to majority groups. Patrimony and Industrial Development Secretary Jose Andres de Oteyza explained how the oil revenue surplus will be used at the inauguration of the meeting of the Confederation of Industrial Chambers [CONCAMIN]. The ceremony was presided over by President Jose Lopez-Portillo. [sentence indistinct]

De Oteyza said that attention to majority groups will be channelled through employment policies, increased real wages and production of staples. He affirmed that oil revenues will not be used to grant sinecures or seek a social utopia.

He also denied that the oil revenue surplus will be used to (?overcome) the chronic deficit of the state-owned enterprises. He stressed that approximately half of the oil revenue surplus to be generated over the next 3 years of this administration will be used to subsidize domestic fuel prices that will directly benefit Mexican industrialists. The industrialists would have had to pay prices according to the increases in the international market had we not had a state-owned oil enterprise.

He affirmed that the federal government programs are well planned [caracter inductivo] and not based on guesswork. They help the Mexican farming, business, public, private and social sectors. This will be the only way to eliminate two problems that threaten us: Inflation over the short term and unemployment over the medium term, he said.

CONCAMIN's outgoing president, Luis Guzman de Alba, reiterated the sector's willingness to work more, improve production and seek fairer prices.

POLICE, GUERRILLAS CLASH AT UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

PA311200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2212 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Mar (EFE)--One extremist leader was killed, at least six persons were injured and six others were arrested as a result of a shootout between police and presumed urban guerrillas that occurred today at the National University.

The authorities reported that the exchange of fire occurred at noon when the alleged members of the 23 September Communist League were surrounded by police in a parking lot at the law school where the guerrillas went to pick up $880,000 in ransom for Monica Perez, whom they had kidnaped.

The dead man was identified as Francisco Medina Rodriguez, "El Licenciado" who, according to our source, was one of the leaders of the league which until 2 years ago was the most active guerrilla group in the country.

The police indicated that the arrest of the extremists has not yet led to the release of Monica, 15, who was kidnaped 2 days ago in a suburb of the capital.

The shooting lasted for over an hour and caused alarm on the campus where some 40,000 students, teachers and employees were present. At first it was thought that this shooting had been caused by a confrontation between two rival student factions.

AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP FRUIT-GROWING PROGRAM WITH CUBA SIGNED

PA311514 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0050 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] A mutual aid program was created [words indistinct] between the Cuban Agriculture Ministry and the National Fruit Commission. According to the program, Mexico will aid in the growth of strawberries and (?pineapples) in Cuba. The agreement is the result of a visit by the CONAFRUT director, who was invited by the Cuban Government to survey fruitgrowing areas in Cuba.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MILITARY AID SUSPENSION SCORED

Chief of Staff

PA310137 Panama City Telvisora Nacional in Spanish 0812 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Mario Velasquez interview with Col Florencio Florez Aguilar, chief of the General Staff of the Panama National Guard on 30 March 1979; place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Colonel Florez, yesterday the international press reported that the U.S. House of Representatives had rejected a $2.5 million military loan to Panama, a sum that was to be used for weapons and equipment for the National Guard. This follows upon last week's action in which the load had been reduced by a subcommittee from the original $5 million to $2.5 million, and is now completely eliminated. I would like you, Colonel Florez, as chief of the National Guard General Staff, to comment on your opinion regarding this decision reached by the House of Representatives and the effect that it will have on the National Guard.

[Answer] Very well, Mario. Yes, on 22 March we received news of the suspension of military aid totalling $5 million. It was subsequently reduced to $2.5 million. We are very surprised in view of the status of the Torrijos-Carter treaties in which the United States and Panama established an era of respect and friendship.

We are also very surprised because the U.S. Armed Forces and the National Guard presently cooperate to a great degree. As chief of the General Staff, it is my opinion that our relations are good.

However, on the other hand, I wish to say that at a time when the National Guard is preparing to have an increasing role in the Canal Zone, we feel that it is an absurd measure, because missions in the Canal Zone after 1 October will be military and police missions. I am additionally surprised because President Carter's government has distinguished itself by censuring totalitarian countries that violate human rights. We are therefore surprised that Panama, a peaceful country, should be included among the countries where there is complete violation [of human rights].

As this goes to the Senate, we trust that there will be consideration for Panama in view of the fact that Panama is a country that devotes all its resources to the well-being of the community. Any military aid that Panama receives is aid that will go directly into public service; it is aid that will be used to achieve tranquillity because we are more interested in fighting the abuse of our forest reserves--which is detrimental to the waters of the Panama Canal--than in having guns, tanks and rockets. That is why we, with the great respect that we hold for President Carter--a president who has been outstanding in his concern for world peace--feel that he will show some consideration for a country such as Panama that has demonstrated its total inclination toward democracy, internal tranquillity and coexistence with foreign countries.

What I would like to tell you is that my instructions from General Torrijos as a member of the General Staff, assign technical and teamwork priority to everything that represents police work and leads to the tranquillity of the citizens. I am sure that there is some confusion. Many people think that this military aid is a gift. But no, this military aid is simply a loan that the country must repay at a low interest rate.

One of the things that is not known is that Panama is one of the countries that spends the least for arms since we have a National Guard rather than an army. People may rest assured that one of the things that may hinder the loan is the fact that the National Guard generally does not use these loans in their entirety simply because the loans are used mostly for police matters. In trying to harm us, they have done something good, because if we investigate thoroughly we will learn that Panama is one of the countries that spends the least for weapons since, under instructions from the National Guard commander in chief, all our resources are used to finance services that benefit the community.

It was with great satisfaction, Mario, that today I attended three graduation ceremonies of 40 men who conluded the basic police course. On 16 April the members of that group will be the first National Guardsmen to serve in the Canal Zone. The concern of the commander in chief and of the members of the General Staff is that these men represent 11 weeks of training [in the use of] equipment and an expense, but it is to our satisfaction that this advance group of the National Guard, which today concluded its training, will in the future be a capable and well-trained group that holds the National Guard's name high.

Right now we also have 13 men rendering service controlling the felling of trees alongside the canal authorities. That also represents equipment and expense for us, but we would like to point out that all our intentions and available resources are aimed at fulfilling this mission.

[Question] Colonel Florez, if the Senate does not rectify the decision of the House of Representatives and Panama is unable to obtain the loan for $2.5 million or for the $5 million originally intended to be used for military aid, do you think that the National Guard will, nonetheless, be prepared to assume its role as of 1 October in the defense of the Canal Zone and the joint tasks that it must assume with the United States?

[Answer] Today's developments constitute evidence that the General Staff officers are working ahead of schedule to meet our serious responsibility and the challenge of seeking the means of obtaining tools that will allow us to fulfill the mission that lies ahead.

LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA

PA311858 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 31 Mar 79 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "Contrary to the Spirit of the Treaties"]

[Text] When the Republic of Panama decided to renew negotiations with the United States on a new basis, it did so with the idea of eliminating the causes of conflict that existed between the two countries as a result of the 1903 treaty. These negotiations culminated with a new treaty, which was later ratified by both countries and which established a partnership not only in managing the waterway, but also in its defense, which will become a joint endeavor beginning on 1 October.

We must remember that such was the spirit that moved both negotiating teams following specific instructions from their respective governments. Unfortunately, the House of Representatives is now assuming a dangerous attitude, which could bring deplorable consequences to the good relations that should exist between the two countries.

The suspension of military aid to Panama is one of them. Our country has probably the smallest budget for military expenditures in all Latin America, except Costa Rica. This is an undeniable fact.

Nevertheless, the National Guard is fully aware of the new responsibility it must assume as of 1 October in view of the provisions of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. The U.S. military presence must decrease gradually and, consequently, the Panamanian presence must increase, with all its implications. It is something that was negotiated, signed by President Carter and General Torrijos and ratified by the U.S. Senate and by the people of Panama in a plebiscite.

Now a group of irresponsible congressmen have decided to place our country on some kind of blacklist, invoking the much-abused human rights arguments. We would like to know the exact fugure for all the military aid given to Iran during the shah's regime, with its feared secret police, merely for playing the role of "gendarme of the Persian Gulf."

Perhaps what most upsets this group of representatives is to have found in Panama a nation of dignified and proud people who have a great sense of sovereignty and who are not about to receive orders from anyone.

Let us hope that a remedy is found for such a negative action which in no way contributes to the harmony and good understanding that should prevail in the relations of the two countries which in a few months will become partners in an enterprise created to benefit the world.

Radio Commentators

PA301851 Panama City Radio Tevedos in Spanish 1300 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[From "Opinion Directa" commentary program with Vladmir Hernandez and Eduardo Herrera]

[Excerpts] [Herrera] I am going to discuss something not related to domestic politics and other questions we have been discussing the past few days. Something has occurred on the international scene which has direct repercussions upon Panama's political and economic stability and development. The U.S. House of Representatives has to approve the law implementing the Torrijos-Carter treaties which, starting on 1 October, will permit us to progressively take possession of the territory called the Panama Canal Zone. It appears that congressmen are trying to pressure President Carter because the Senate approved the treaties and now the House of Representatives. The House felt that it should have discussed the treaties too, as they included a transfer of property and payments to Panama, which is the House's prerrogative.

Yesterday the representatives decided by a 155-vote majority to suspend military aid to Panama. This military aid consists of $2.5 million, a laughable sum which will in no way undermine the effectiveness of our National Guard. What is significant is that a retaliatory pressure measure measure is being used by the members of the House to pressure President Carter, on one hand, and on the other to continue harassing the Panamanian people.

Thank heaven we are not interested in their $2.5 million, but we must note that a blackmailing, aggressive mentality in certain U.S. sectors did not disappear on 7 September 1977 when General Torrijos signed the treaty in Washington. It has not disappeared.

What I want to point out here is that the pressure will continue because the Americans intend to interpret the treaties to suit their interests. They want to implement the treaties in a way favorable to them and not according to the spirit of the treaties or to Panama's stand of recovering that strip of land, which is ours, and putting it under our sovereignty.

So these gentlemen are now taking off their sheep's clothing. The Panamanian people should be on the alert, watchful. The problem was not signing a treaty but interpreting and implementing it, having it applied. Those lands and services in the canal should benefit broad sectors of our society.

I hope we will start thinking about this. I have touched on the problem because although it is true that we have internal problems, domestic problems which must be solved, this problem is very important. Panama's sovereignty, the fulfillment of an agreement, Panama's international prestige, and the future of our children and the generation of the year 2000 are at stake.

[Hernandez] I think this is part of a plot by them to see how they can get some kind of advantage. But we all know that with or without implementation, our people are determined to enter the Canal Zone, to take possession of it as sovereign owners of the land. That is why in previous talks, when we discussed a series of situations in the Panama Canal Authority and some persons who felt affected called us to correct us, it was because we know that when the time comes it will be the people who will assume the responsibility of taking up the challenge of entering the Canal Zone, with or without implementation.

This kind of pressure will not silence the people or the firm decision of President Royo's administration, which must feel committed to not failing even when pressure is exerted upon us. Internationally, we know that the U.S. Government has been pressuring not only Panama's Government but others in connection with support for groups which today seek to overthrow the Fascist Somoza regime. International news reports tell us of similar pressure against other governments. However, to suspend military aid to Panama which has a National Guard committed to the people, one that is not repressive but is identified with the broad popular sectors in this country, will not change the conduct of the National Guard leaders or its members.

The claim is made that human rights are not respected in Panama. It depends on one's viewpoint. But we all know that the darkest U.S. imperialist interests continue to identify with the most recalcitrant sectors in this country which oppose all social change and reforms which benefit the neglected masses.

[Herrera] I want to say that since at present we are concentrating on politics, the registration of parties, the subject of the Canal Zone, of sovereignty, has been neglected, and it is a national problem, not a party problem. Government spokesmen should inform the people what is happening. This pressure by the United States did not start yesterday when they cut off military aid to Panama; it has been felt for many months. But the people are not being informed. What does the government want? Does it expect that when the situation gets tough it will hold a big rally and inform the people over a radio and television network?

I do not know if there is some official policy of silence on this subject, but if it exists we will not keep quiet. It is the interests of the people in general, of the people who have struggled, which are at stake, and the people should be informed. Enough of such silence. How can we keep silent now, and then when we are in a difficult situation, pressured by the United States, go to seek out the people, the popular sectors, the active forces in the country to come out in defense of what?

[Hernandez] The people are not sheep. We want to point out to the nation's top leaders that at this time it is necessary to keep the people's militancy, expectations and exuberance up to defending their rights.

COSTA RICA

GROUP OF 12 RETURNS FROM TOUR; LEADER'S LIFE THREATENED

PA302225 Paris AFP in Spanish 2148 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 29 Mar (AFP)--Sergio Ramirez Mercado, an anti-Somozist leader and spokesman of the Group of 12, said here today that he has been threatened with death, but is not afraid and will return to Managua next week. According to Ramirez, the Group of 12 has returned from a tour through several friendly countries where awareness of the anti-Somozist cause has been intensified. He also warned that Somoza is about to be overthrown, but did not specify when.

FOUR SANDINISTS ARRESTED; PARAPHERNALIA CONFISCATED

PA311205 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ] this afternoon captured four Sandinists inside a printing shop in Guardia, Moravia. The OIJ unit was on the trail of a group of Nicaraguans that had carried out a number of assaults in the capital when it learned of the printing press hideout and arrested the four Sandinists.

The Sandinists had in their possession posters relating to the Sandinist struggle, books, 16 boxes of weapons and a list of persons and institutions in the Caribbean, Africa and Guyana. The printing shop contained two presses used for printing Sandinist propaganda attacking Somozism.

The individuals captured by the OIJ at 1600 this afternoon were Luis (Margen Rodriguez Ruiz), Santiago Rivera Robleto, Yadira (Paez Padilla) and Violeta Murillo Zambarano.

The OIJ confiscated an album of notes and clippings from magazines for training in guerrilla warfare which explain, for example, how to carry out an assault and set up an ambush. In addition, it was reported that the weapons that were allegedly found in the confiscated boxes belonged to the Nicaraguan National Guard. The four Sandinists are being held by the OIJ.

EL SALVADOR

FARN TERRORISTS RELEASE KIDNAPED JAPANESE INDUSTRIALIST

PA010454 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0447 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Apr (LATIN)--Japanese industrialist Takakazu Suzuki was released tonight after almost four months in captivity. The announcement was made early today by the Armed Forces of National Resistance guerrilla group.

FARN 'IMPLIES' IT WILL NOT RELEASE BRITISH BANKERS

PA010509 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0455 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 31 Mar (LATIN)--The FARN guerrilla group tonight reported that it had released Japanese industrialist Takakazu Suzuki after almost 4 months imprisonment. The FARN communique also implies [entrever] that it will not release its two other hostages, British bankers Ian Massie and Michael Chatterton because the British Government as well as the Bank of London and South America "have abandoned their employees despite several opportunities given by our organization. The replies by the company and the British Government were arrogant, maneuvering and ridiculous. "Therefore, the case of Massie and Chatterton is closed."

ORDEN OFFICIAL MURDERED BY UNKNOWN GUNMEN

PA302237 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2355 GMT 29 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A member of the Nationalist Democratic Organization [ORDEN], which has government connections, was murdered today in Santa Rita, Tejutepeque jurisdiction, 60 km northeast of San Salvador.

The victim's son explained that seven individuals with painted faced murdered his father, farmer Rafael Sibrian, a liaison official of ORDEN in Cabanas Department. The victim was going to a river for water when he was ambushed by the killers, who took the dead man's revolver with them.

Last Monday in Santa Ana, 66 km west of San Salvador, members of the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces [FPL] killed Mayor Fernando Moreira Rodriguez, also a liaison official of ORDEN. In today's case there has been no confirmation from the attackers. Meanwhile, in San Miguel, 138 km east of San Salvador, several unidentified individuals murdered former Deputy Tadeo Alberto Ayala, a member of the defunct Renovation Action Party.

THREE KILLED IN CLASH WITH NATIONAL GUARD IN SOYAPANGO

PA012042 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1923 GMT 1 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Three persons were killed today in the city of Soyapango, 6 km east of San Salvador, as a result of an armed clash between National Guardsmen and members of the 28 February Popular Leagues. The clash occurred in front of the Soyapango parish church. The demonstration had been organized in support of strike movements, particularly the striking San Cristobal miners.

FPL TERRORIST ATTACK MARKS NINTH ANNIVERSARY

PA311830 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1553 GMT 31 Mar 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--A policeman was killed and another was wounded as a result of terrorist attacks last night and early today in various cities of El Salvador.

National policeman Pedro Martir de la Cruz Guzman, 34, was killed by unidentified individuals last night while he was guarding La Constancia Brewery, which had been the site of a recent strike that led to street disturbances in which seven persons died.

Early this morning, the clandestine Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) detonated a powerful bomb in the National Guard garrison in San Marcos, 5 km south of San Salvador. Agent Raul Rodriguez was injured in the explosion. He is being treated at the military hospital.

Security agents deactivated a bomb that had been planted on Espana Avenue. They also removed FPL flags from there and from an area near the Cervantes Institute on North 2d Avenue.

The FPL will be celebrating 9 years of activity in El Salvador on 1 April and authorities fear that a wave of violent actions will occur.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER REJECTS U.S. INTERVENTION

PA301155 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0023 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 29 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes said today, Thursday, that the United States has no legal authority to intervene in Guatemalan internal affairs. The official made this statement in response to a decision made by a group of U.S. congressmen to suspend military aid to Guatemala because human rights are being violated here. He said that the aid in question totals $200,000, a sum which Guatemala does not need.

Castillo Valdes is the third high-ranking official to decry U.S. intervention in this country's affairs. Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas said in this regard that Guatemala does not need the $200,000 in U.S. military aid. He added that the U.S. Government should use the $200,000 to help the Apaches, whom it keeps antidemocratically confined to reservations. Guatemalan Defense Minister Gen Otto Speigeler said that U.S. military aid to Guatemala has been nonexistent for the past 7 years.

NICARAGUA

COMMANDER CERO REPORTEDLY PURGED FROM FSLN LEADERSHIP

PA310249 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0430 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] The picturesque Commander Cero, or Eden Pastora, has been totally purged by the leaders of the Sandinist-Communist Front's Superior Directorate.

After having their picture taken in Costa Rica, the front's leaders announced that those appearing in the picture are the front's sole leaders. They did not make any reference to picturesque Commander Pastora, who apparently has dedicated himself to la dolce vita and to squandering money obtained in various holdups in merry orgies and bacchanalia in San Jose brothels. In view of this, the puritanical Sandinist leaders have decided to purge the picturesque attacker of the National Palace.

On another subject, clandestine handouts brought in from San Jose report that the Sandinists do not acknowledge any terrorist groups other than their three factions. They are determined to execute anyone posing as a Sandinist. This refers to the leaders of the so-called United People's Movement [MPU] and of the National Patriotic Front, two organizations which they accuse of being opportunistic and dedicated to politicking.

PRESIDENT SOMOZA INTERVIEWED ON COUNTRY'S SITUATION

PA301624 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[First part of special correspondent Edgar Hernandez interview with President Anastasio Somoza in Managua; no date given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, [words indistinct] regarding the political and economic crisis [words indistinct], what do you see as a solution for the country [words indistinct]?

[Answer] The political crisis was stimulated by aid given to the opposition by countries interested in changing the situation in Nicaragua. The government and the Nationalist Liberal Party have so far been able to (?confront) that crisis since they have [word indistinct] the opposition because it does not have sufficient political strength to change the government. We are now confronting armed leftist, communist groups that are being [word indistinct]. They are hindering the country's normal progress even though they are enjoying all the constitutional guarantees. There is no Latin American country that does not have problems with harassment, assaults, armed robberies, [word indistinct] and attacks on authority. So in Nicaragua there is some unrest, but most people want to continue to work and achieve the country's development. [Words indistinct] elections in 1981. They will be general elections to elect a new president and Congress.

[Question] Mr President, it was recently charged that there were plans for a coup d'etat or a self-inflicted coup d'etat. What can you say about this?

[Answer] I think this report was spread to justify acts of violence in the country by the left [words indistinct] constitutional forces that are maintaining law in Nicaragua.

[Question] There is a virtual lack of support by the United States. The ambassador was (?withdrawn) and there is talk that there will be no more aid. What will happen to Nicaragua? What will happen to your government if there is a complete withdrawal of U.S. support?

[Answer] Well, in the past we had very good relations with the United States. Now they have changed their view and U.S. influence will disappear from Nicaragua. There will be a decrease of economic activity because long-term loans are needed to initiate programs. We will always be two states that will have relations and mutual respect.

[Question] But won't your government be on the verge of toppling?

[Answer] I do not think my government will topple because they have withdrawn the $20 million in aid that had been planned for 1979.

[Question] Would your government reach a pact with the Sandinist Front to achieve peace in the country?

[Answer] My government does not reach pacts with anyone. The government promulgates laws that establish conditions so that everyone can live in peace and without violence in Nicaragua. Many people have confused this. In the past the government has issued laws to satisfy the majority of the opposition, which has traditionally been the Conservative Party, but we have never [words indistinct]. So if the gentlemen of the front want to lay down their weapons and organize themselves as a political party within the guarantees existing in Nicaragua, they can do so.

[Question] I have here the report of the human rights committee that mentions [number indistinct] missing persons, 350 political prisoners and [number indistinct] dead in the past (?44) years. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] I believe that [words indistinct] group of citizens who do not have any legal or moral authority to speak and give the reports they have given you since they are interested politicians who make up that information. I reject all you have said as fictitious.

[Question] Are the Nicaraguan people prepared for a civilian government in the future?

[Answer] The Nicaraguan people have always been prepared for the arrival of a civilian government. Proof of this is that since 1929 all governments have been popularly elected by direct vote. Therefore, I do not think you are well informed by saying that this is not a civilian government.

[Question] Will you leave power?

[Answer] I will officially leave power in 1981 when I stop being president and the new president-elect is (?installed).

[Question] There is talk that your son is being prepared to assume power once you leave. What is your opinion?

[Answer] I do not think this is so because the Constitution prohibits any relative up to four times removed by blood from following me in the presidency. There is no reelection. So he will be [words indistinct] as any other officer subordinate to the desire of the civilian government that is elected in 1981.

[Question] Does this mean that the Somoza family will leave power after 1981?

[Answer] Officially, yes.

IMMINENT REIMPOSITION OF STATE OF SIEGE RUMORED

PA310004 Paris AFP in Spanish 2341 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 30 Mar (AFP)--Political violence has continued to claim victims in Nicaragua today, while there is an increasingly persistent rumor that President Anastasio Somoza will reinstate a state of siege. The opposition paper LA PRENSA quoted apparently well-informed sources as saying that a state of siege and martial law will be imposed in a matter of days. The paper says that the Somoza regime is besieged by international pressure, economic crisis and daily violence that has prevailed in the country since October, 1977.

Two young guerrilla women and a man were killed last night in two skirmishes with the army in Leon, 90 km west of Managua. A report on this action states that guerrilla groups had attacked two military posts in Leon. One soldier was killed in the fighting, as was a civilian who was caught in the crossfire. In Esteli, 150 km north of Managua, a guerrilla group kidnaped a woman tax collector this morning.

Managua Archbishop Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo held an emergency meeting this morning with Managua civilian and religious leaders to carry out what he called a day of reflection to search for a solution to the bloodshed in Nicaragua.

PCN LEADERS CONSIDERING WITHDRAWAL FROM FAO

PA310216 Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0430 GMT 30 Mar 79 PA

[Text] Several Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN] leaders have announced that they are seriously reconsidering their position within the Broad Opposition Front [FAO] and are studying the possibility of withdrawing from it. It is currently being rumored in political circles that the PCN should have withdrawan from that organization a long time ago. The possible withdrawal of the Conservatives from the FAO has resulted from the latter organization's repeated requests that PCN members resign their legislative branch posts.

POLISH PREMIER JAROSZEWICZ CONCLUDES VISIT

Reception for Fidel Castro

FL301037 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Piotr Jaroszewicz, member of the Polish United Workers Party Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland, has hosted a reception at Cubanacan Protocol Hall in honor of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the ROC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

Present at the party were all members of the high-level delegation of the government of the People's Republic of Poland visiting us, as well as members of the PCC Politburo, Secretariat and Central Committee, leaders of institutions and mass organizations, members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba and other guests. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Piotr Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, welcomed the guests as they entered the hall.

Havana Tour

FL301759 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] The high-level delegation of the People's Republic of Poland headed by Piotr Jaroszewicz, chairman of Poland's Council of Ministers and member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party, today visited the Granma memorial and Casablanca maritime shops enterprise. The distinguished visitors were accompanied by Juan Almeida, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State.

The Polish delegation arrived in the Granma memorial at 0945 this morning and was received by Lt Col Nelson Martinez Amador, director of the Museum of the Revolution. The visitors were briefed on the glorious voyage of the Granma and details of the struggle against the Batista dictatorship.

After visiting areas of colonial Havana, the members of the Polish Government delegation headed by Jaroszewicz went to the installations of the Casablanca maritime ships enterprise, where the workers gave them an enthusiastic welcome. The visitors, accompanied by Almeida, were received at the Casablanca shipyards by Antonio Enrique Lusson, minister of transportation and member of the PCC Central Committee, and (Ivan Esteba), director of the enterprise.

Forty-eight Polish advisers are working at this enterprise. In this sector of the economy, Cuba and Poland have maintained close cooperation, and this was underscored during the Polish delegation's visit to the shipyards.

Cooperation Protocol

FL302208 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2202 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] The chairmen of the Cuban-Polish commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation signed in Havana today a protocol on the intergovernmental talks. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and President of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Piotr Jaroszewicz, member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, attended the signing ceremony.

The document was signed by Diocles Torralba, member of the Cuban Council of State and vice president of the Council of Ministers, and Tadeusz Pyka, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers.

The protocol contains a review of the current status of the agreements reached at the seventh meeting of the Cuban-Polish commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation held in Havana last year.

Report on Joint Communique

LD312148 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 31 Mar 79 LD

[Text] A joint communique published at the end of Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz's visit to Cuba states with satisfaction that Polish-Cuban cooperation has expanded in all spheres, and stresses the significance of the meeting of Edward Gierek and Fidel Castro to the development of the relations of the two countries.

The document states that Poland and Cuba will actively undertake to serve the cause of the strengthening of the process of detente and making detante irreversible and universal. The communique stresses that the signing of the SALT II agreement would have a positive influence on the international climate and the prospect of further disarmament negotiations. The document condemns Chinese aggression against the SRV and the policy of apartheid of the southern Africa regimes. It is stressed that lasting and just peace in the Middle East is only possible if Israel withdraws from all occupied Arab territories and if the Palestinian question is solved.

Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz invited Fidel Castro to pay an official visit to Poland again.

Conclusion of Visit

LD310922 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 30 Mar 79 LD

[Grzegorz Demidowicz reports from Havana]

[Text] The 5-day official friendship visit to Cuba by Piotr Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has ended. The last hours of his stay in Havana were spent by the Polish premier in visiting the Cuban capital. He saw the Museum of the Revolution, whose most important exhibit is the Granma yacht, in which Fidel Castro and a group of freedom fighters arrived on the shores of Cuba in 1956, beginning the revolutionary struggle which culminated in victory. Piotr Jaroszewicz also visited the Casablanca shipyard, expanding with the help of Polish experts. The shipyard's contacts with our specialists are 15 years old, and the local engineers and technicians were trained in Poland. The premier met the shipyard's worker Aktiv.

In the early afternoon, the high spot of the visit was the signing of the final document on Polish-Cuban economic talks in the headquarters of our delegation in Cubanacan. In the presence of Piotr Jaroszewicz and Fidel Castro, Deputy Premiers Tadeusz Pyka and Diocles Torralbas signed the document. In it there is a high assessment of the course of the exchange of views; both sides stress their readiness to increase and vary the cooperation to date. Up to 1980, provision is made for the mutual trade turnover to double compared with the past 5-year period. This cooperation will bring advantages to both Poland and Cuba, which is becoming a more and more interesting partner. The requirements of Cuba's developing economy are large. In a relatively short time, 700 industrial plants have been built on the island; another 200 are under construction. The Polish side has technology and experienced specialists in many sectors of the economy to offer.

Cuba wants to export on an increasing scale the products of its processing industry--sugar, fruit and (?nickel).

The visit by Premier Jaroszewicz [word indistinct] those sectors in which cooperation development is particularly evident, or has chances of development, like the Casablanca shipyard, the construction of a cardboard and packaging plant, a multimillion [no currency given] development in Santa Cruz del Norte and finally the [word indistinct] processing center in [name indistinct] Grande.

In an interview for PRENSA LATINA, the chairman of the Council of Ministers said that Cuba is making rapid advances. We will try to help, cooperating as best we can in this march under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba and Comrade Fidel Castro. Our cooperation is good, but we would like it to be better; it can and must be better.

The magnificent atmosphere surrounding the entire visit by Premier Jaroszewicz stressed its significance. In diplomatic jargon, it bore the name of an official visit of friendship, but the main stress was laid by both the Polish and Cuban sides on the word friendship.

In the afternoon, at Jose Marti Airport in Havana, the farewell ceremony of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers Piotr Jaroszewicz with the Cuban leader Fidel Castro took place.

Jaroszewicz Farewell Message

FL311306 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Excerpt] Piotr Jaroszewicz, member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has sent a message, from the plane that was taking him home, to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

In the message, Jaroszewicz expressed deep gratitude for the warm welcome and demonstrations of friendship they received from Fidel and the Cuban people. I am convinced, he said, that this visit, which we will kindly remember, will help to expand friendship, brotherhood and cooperation between the peoples of Poland and Cuba even more.

The Polish leader boarded the Polish airline plane at 1530 yesterday after inspecting the honor guard and saying goodby to Cuban officials at the air terminal--including Fidel, members of the PCC Politburo and Secretariat, Councils of State and Ministers, PCC Central Committee and other officials--and Poles who live in Cuba and the people in general.

RODRIGUEZ ARRIVES IN GDR FOR COOPERATION TALKS

FL311624 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1603 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, today arrived in [East] Berlin, capital of the German Democratic Republic, for an official visit. The PCC Politburo member heads the Cuban delegation to the annual meeting of the intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two nations. The meeting opens Monday and will end Thursday with the signing of a protocol.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez arrived in Berlin from Moscow where he participated in the 89th CEMA meeting.

The Cuban delegation was received by Gerhard Weiss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, (?Siegfried Zscherpe), deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission, Cuban Ambassador to Berlin Nicolas Rodriguez, and other officials.

CUBA ELECTED TO CHAIRMANSHIP OF GROUP OF 77

FL311733 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] In Geneva, Cuba has been elected to the chairmanship of the Group of 77 for a period of 3 months beginning tomorrow, 1 April. Cuba's candidacy was proposed by the coordinator of the Latin American group at the Group of 77, whose membership actually consists of 119 developing countries. Cuba will exercise its chairmanship during the fifth UN Conference on Trade And Development to be held in Manila in May.

U.S. OFFICIALS VISIT HAVANA CITY HOSPITAL

FL301354 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1326 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary for Health Julius Richmond and (George Lipcot), director of the General Services Administration [as heard], have visited the Ramon Gonzalez Coro gyneco-obstetrical hospital in this capital. Cuban Public Health Minister Jose Gutierrez Muniz and Pedro Valdes Vivo, director of the hospital, accompanied the visitors, who were briefed on the hospital's operation and its interrelation with municipal polyclinics. The U.S. health officials were also shown statistics on the Cuban infant mortality rate. Richmond and (Lipcot) were also accompanied by Jaime Saavedra, assistant director of the hospital.

ALGERIAN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

FL301741 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] In response to an invitation to visit our country, Abdelmadjid Aouchiche, member of Algeria's party Central Committee and minister of construction and housing, was received today at the main offices of the State Committee for Construction. The visitor and the delegation accompanying him were received by Levi Farah, minister president of the State Committee for Construction, and other officials, who briefed the visitors on Cuba's construction projects and, very particularly, those under construction for the sixth nonalined summit. The Algerian delegation will open talks with Cuban officials, which will conclude with the signing of a cooperation protocol between the two countries.

Construction Cooperation Talks

FL311637 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] The Algerian delegation headed by Abdelmadjid Aouchiche, minister of construction, housing and urban planning and member of the Central Committee of the Algerian National Front, and the Cuban delegation headed by Levi Farah, minister president of the State Committee for Construction, have held initial official talks for cooperation in the construction field between Cuba and Algeria.

Levi Farah stressed the close diplomatic and political ties that exist between Cuba and Algeria and the importance of raising them to that [high] level in the economic field.

BAHAMAS

SHAH OF IRAN ARRIVES FOR PRIVATE VISIT

FL301854 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Mar 79 FL

[Text] The shah of Iran, Muhammad Reza Pahlavi, as well as the Empress Farah and the couple's four children, are in the Bahamas. The deposed Iranian monarch is here in his private capacity and not as a head of state or as a monarch. News was learned that the party would be staying as winter visitors for approximately 8 weeks. All yesterday (BNS) News had been privy to reports that the shah was to come to the Bahamas. Sources said that the American Embassy here was making inquiries on his behalf and when contacted the ambassador charged with such duties was found to be at the airport. This news service reported last evening that the visit by the shah was about to begin. The private plane carrying the party was scheduled to arrive at Nassau's international airport at 1015 this morning but was delayed. Meantime, the air of excitement at the scene intensified. Mike Smith is on the (BNS) Radio News Lifeline. Mike, what is the situation?

[Correspondent Mike Smith] Although the shah actually arrived under tight security here at Nassau international airport at about 1145 this morning aboard a Royal Moroccan [word indistinct] aircraft, a 747 jet, it is believed that the aircraft flew straight to the Bahamas from Morocco, where the shah has been in exile since he left Tehran. Members of the international and local press received tips that the shah would be arriving this morning and so were anxiously awaiting his arrival at the airport although security was extremely tight and the press and television people were kept well away from the deposed monarch's aircraft. The international press (?which learned) late yesterday afternoon and this morning that he might arrive this morning flew over to Nassau just to be on hand for the occasion and you can bet your bottom dollar that it will be blasted all over the Western Hemisphere this afternoon and late tonight that the shah in fact is in the Bahamas. Bahamian officials, security and otherwise, as well as U.S. Embassy and security personnel were at the airport as well to insure the shah's safety. Also several limousines and three helicopters were waiting there at the airport. And as soon as the aircraft taxied to a stop, he was whisked to one of the helicopters which was said later to be headed toward Paradise Island. A formal statement is expected from the shah to the media through the governmental international services sometime today. [end of Mike Smith report]

The former Iranian leader left that country 10 weeks ago on an enforced holiday during the revolution there led by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to create an Islamic republic. He spent the last 2 months in the Arabian Kingdom of Morocco as the guest of its ruler, King Hassan. It was from the Moroccan capital city Rabat that the shah left this morning for the Bahamas accompanied only by his family and a few aides. Initially, the shah left Iran for Egypt where he spent a short holiday as the guest of its President Mr Anwar as-Sadat. It had been reported that the shah would settle in the United States but news reports say American officials have advised the shah that an extended stay in that country would create major security problems for the ousted monarch and his family as well as for Americans living in Iran. (BNS) news has learned that during the shah's visit here security precautions are being taken.

ACP, EEC SET TARGET DATE FOR NEW AGREEMENT

FL301510 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Mar 79 p 1 FL

[Text] Freeport--African Caribbean and Pacific [ACP] development states have agreed to conclude negotiations with Europe on a new Lome Convention in two months' time.

This is one of the decisions to come out of a three-day ministerial meeting between the two sides held last week in Freeport. The current Lome Convention, which is the framework for trade and aid cooperation between the European Community and the ACP states, expires next year.

The ministers will continue negotiations in Brussels, aimed at producing a second Lome treaty to take over at the expiry of the old one. Delegates agreed to try to meet a June target date for signing the new pact.

And at the end of the conference Jamaica's Foreign Affairs Minister P.J. Patterson repeated a call on the European Economic Community to remove all non-tariff barriers on the importation of rum from Africa, Caribbean and Pacific states. Mr Patterson, who is the ACP's spokesman and Jamaica's deputy prime minister, made the call since the two groups had been looking at the protocols under Lome on Bahamas rum and beef. Mr Patterson said the ACP believed that rum should be treated as an industrial product subjected to no special rules, and contended that the system of import quotas constituted a barrier.

EEC's spokesman K. von Dohnanyi said that rum protocol under Lome had not been a failure and quoted figures showing that ACP's share of the Community's market had increased from 20 percent in 1975 to 50 percent in 1977. He said that took into account a difference in the two groupings statistics and called on the ACP to provide its own statistics.

On beef, Mr Patterson called on the EEC in the course of its examination of the 60 ACP products to provide free access for ACP beef, in which case no special protocol would be needed.

After referring to the present arrangements for a 90-percent abatement of import charges, balanced by a 90-percent export tax, he said that if free access was not provided, then a protocol should include the following provisions: 100-percent levy abatement on ACP exports of beef to the EEC, annual growth factor of seven percent permitted to remain and become fully levy abated, provisions for fluctuations in production due to disease or drought with quantities imported under the future convention to be based on the 1980 basic minimum entitlement of the ACP.

The community did not reach a decision on this but was studying the proposals and was seeking a suitable solution securing, through arrangements, some degree of continuity in traditional trade relations.

JAMAICA

UNESCO DIRECTOR TO OFFICIALLY OPEN SUBREGIONAL OFFICE

FL311748 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 31 Mar 79 FL

[Text] The director general of UNESCO, Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, will arrived in the island on the 11th of next month to officially open a subregional office of UNESCO in Kingston. While here Mr M'Bow will also be holding discussions with the minister of foreign affairs and tourism, Mr P.J. Patterson, and the vice chancellor of the University of the West Indies, Mr (A.J. Preston). In addition, the UNESCO director general will be paying courtesy calls on the governor general and the prime minister. He is also scheduled to attend a cultural presentation in Montego Bay on the first day of his visit to Jamaica. The presentation is being put on by the UNESCO Club of Mount Alvernia High School and Cornwall College. Mr M'Bow will leave the island on April 16th.